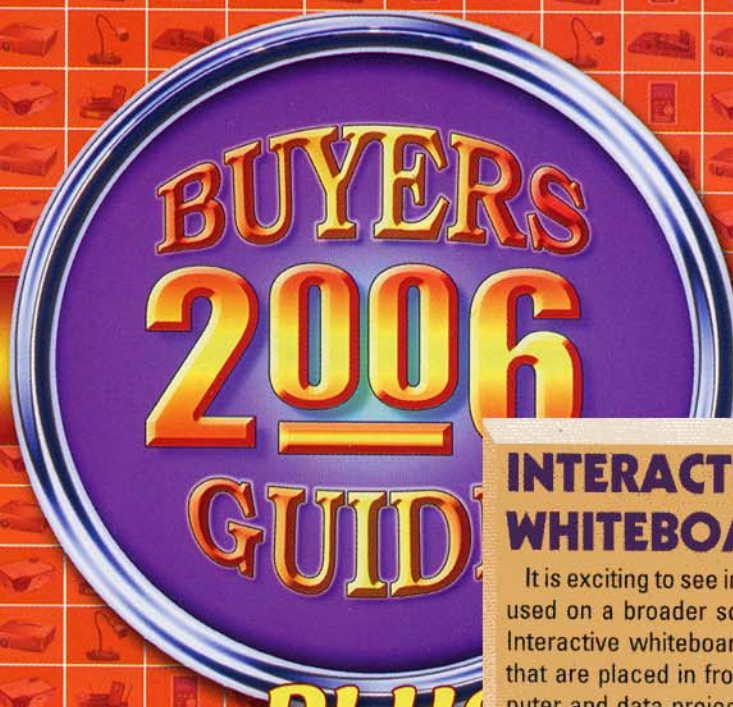


# Media & Methods

January/February 2006

Technology Tools & Resources for K-12  
School Educators & Administrators



## INTERACTIVE WHITEBOARDS & DEVICES

It is exciting to see interactive whiteboard technology being used on a broader scale in school districts across the U.S. Interactive whiteboards are those large screen-like boards that are placed in front of a class and connected to a computer and data projector. Any computer images can be projected onto this sturdy surface. Teachers and students can write directly on the board to annotate and highlight all sorts of amazing images.

The benefits of interactive whiteboards include annotating any computer screen information, highlighting key visual points and whole-class reviewing of important parts of lessons using the technology. This technology allows presenters to make their annotations directly on the whiteboard itself using either a finger or an electronic stylus pen. They can also use a remote device to operate the whiteboard like a mouse operates a computer.

Some teachers prefer standing at the front of the room using the interactive whiteboard. Other teachers like to move throughout the room while teaching. For them, there is a wireless pad that gives them the ability to move throughout the room and still control their computer and whiteboard. Whatever is on a computer screen can be shown on a whiteboard for an entire class to view.

Interactive whiteboard manufacturers are now packaging teaching suggestions that include lessons, activities and clip art. They are also including grading and assessment tools. Whiteboard vendor websites often have places where teachers can share and download images and lesson templates. Other new whiteboard features include polling capabilities, improvements for videoconferencing, and the ability to interact with peripheral devices such as document cameras and projectors.

PLUS  
ID  
EN  
QU  
FO

PRSRST STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
LIBERTY, MO  
PERMIT NO.  
154

### GTCO CalComp's Classroom Response System

GTCO CalComp's *InterWrite PRS Version 3.2* handheld polling clickers and software work with or without an interactive whiteboard and allow teachers to ask timed or self-paced questions during a class session. PowerPoint slides can be used to project polling questions so a whole class

can see the questions. Students use these handheld polling devices to answer the questions. The teacher can instantly graph assessment results to determine whether students understand the concepts. Grades can instantly be transferred to an electronic grade book.

**Newest Features:** The latest software for the *InterWrite PRS* expands options for teachers so that questions can be delivered on both Windows and on Mac computers by using Powerpoint, *PRS* software or imported questions from publishers. This new software release includes a welcomed self-paced mode, so students can answer *InterWrite PRS* questions at their own pace.

**Uses in Schools:** Using *InterWrite PRS Version 3.2*, teachers get instant feedback on what concepts students have mastered and what teachers need to spend time

reteaching. With *InterWrite PRS*, teachers can grade quizzes and tests in a matter of seconds.

GTCO CALCOMP.

800/344-4723. [www.gtcocalcomp.com](http://www.gtcocalcomp.com)